

PATENT

S/N 09/864,862

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Applicant: | PEARCY et al. | Examiner: | Jiping Lu |
| Serial No.: | 09/864,862 | Group Art Unit: | 3749 |
| Filed: | May 23, 2001 | Docket No.: | 12784.0002US01 |
| Title: | MICROWAVE LYOPHILIZATION METHOD | | |

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d): The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on February 28, 2006.

By: *[Signature]*
 Name: Karen R. Nejedly

FEB 28 2006

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), it is respectfully requested that a three-month extension of time be granted in which to respond to the outstanding Office Action mailed August 30, 2005, said period of response being extended from November 30, 2005 to February 28, 2006.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 13-2725 in the amount of \$510.00 to cover the required extension fee for a small entity.



Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

Dated: 2/28/06

By: *[Signature]*
 Gregory A. Sebald
 Reg. No. 33,280
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